

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing of this application or entry into the national stage of this application, or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

It is requested that the accompanying information disclosure statement be considered and made of record in the above-captioned application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Marc S. Kaufman, Esq. Registration No. 35,212

NIXON PEABODY LLP 8180 Greensboro Drive, Suite 800 McLean, Virginia 22102 Telephone: (703) 770-9300 NVA234502.1

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act at 1995, no persons are required to respond to a conection of information unless it contains a valid OWB control number.								
Substitute for form 1449A/PT				Со	mplete if Known	ec		
INFORMAGEON DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	10/046,695	3	AL	
				Filing Date	01/17/2002	90	9(
				First Named Inventor	Guillermo LAO et	al 🥝	0	
	(use as many sheets o	is necesso	iry)	Group Art Unit	2171	C	٠	
				Examiner Name	Unassigned	en	20	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	111325/000043	er	20	

			U.S. PATENT DOCUMI	ENTS	10
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cite	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind C (if kno		MM-DD-YYYY	
		6,253,193	Ginter et al	06/26/2001	
		4,713,753	Beobert et al	12/15/1987	
		5,052,040	Preston et al	09/24/1991	
		5,301,231	Abraham et al	04/05/1994	
		5,502,766	Boebert et al	03/26/1996	
		5,649,013	Stuckey et al	07/15/1997	
		5,737,416	Cooper et al	04/07/1998	
		5,737,413	Akiyama et al	04/07/1998	
		5,757,907	Cooper et al	05/26/1998	
		6,301,660	Benson	10/09/2001	
		6,327,652	England et al	12/04/2001	
		6,330,670	England et al	12/11/2001	

				FC	DREIGN PATENT DOC	UMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Kind Code ³ Office ³ Number ⁴ (if known)			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
			OTH	ED BDIOD	ART – NON PATENT LITE	DATURE DOCUMENTS		
			UIH	ER PRIOR	ART - NON PATENT LITE	RATURE DOCUMENTS		· T
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.)., date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					T ²	

Signature Considered

*EVAMINED: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in

Date

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Examiner

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.